Montana Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent
opi.mt.gov

JUMP

MontCAS
December 2013

Welcome to *JUMP*, the OPI online assessment newsletter. *JUMP* is published several times during the year to announce important assessment and data events. It provides up-to-date information necessary for the administration of statewide assessments and the accompanying data collections.

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Flexiblility Waiver Granted

The Office of Public Instruction has been granted a testing waiver from the U.S. Department of Education in order to avoid double-testing of Montana students this school year and to allow schools to smoothly transition to a new statewide assessment in 2015.

The request outlines the following:

1. All Montana public and private accredited school students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 are required to participate in the full form Smarter Balanced field test with the exception of qualifying students with disabilities who will take the CRT Alternate assessments.
2. The current Science CRT and Science CRT Alternate will continue to be given in grades 4, 8, and 10; the current Reading and Math CRT Alternate will continue to be given in grades 3-8 and 10.
3. AYP determinations from 2013 will roll forward for 2014.
4. In the 2014-2015 school year, the new Smarter Balanced assessment as well as the current Science CRT will be administered in all required grades and be used to determine Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for all schools.

Detailed information on the Smarter Field test can be found starting on page 6

☞Updated: 2013-2014 Statewide Assessment Schedule	
December 4, 2013 – January 29, 2014	**English Language Proficiency Assessment Window: ACCESS for ELLs**
January 15-17, 2014	**State Assessment/Data Conference**, Red Lion, Helena
February 17 – March 25, 2014	**CRT-Alternate,** Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science The first week of this window is intended for training and the preparation of materials.
March 3 -25, 2014	**CRT Science -** Grades 4, 8, and 10,
April 23-May 7, 2014	**ACT Plus Writing** for Public School Students in Grade 11 Wednesday, April 23, 2014: Initial test day (NOTE: It moves from a Tuesday to a Wednesday in 2014) May 7, 2014: Makeup test day April 23-May 7, 2014: Accommodated testing window
March 18, 2014- May 14, 2014	**Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Summative Assessment Field Test** English Language Arts and Math, Grades 3-8 and 11- All Schools

What resources are available from the Assessment Division at OPI to communicate important information about statewide assessments?	
Resource	**Information/Links**
OPI Assessment Website	Information on all the assessments is on the assessment pages at: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/ Assessment Transitions page: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1_8
Live and Recorded Webinars	The assessment division presents monthly live webinars (see our calendar with links below). These are recorded and posted to the OPI assessment home page for those who cannot attend the live webinars: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?tpm=1_4
JUMP Newsletter	A periodic newsletter--the link is sent to all administrators, test coordinators, special education directors and coops, and subscribers when a new edition is posted. JUMP newsletters can be accessed on the OPI website: http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_3
Assessment/Data Conference	**All Aboard: College and Career Ready** **January 15-17, 2013, Red Lion Colonial Hotel, Helena, MT** Conference Website: http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_3#gpm1_4

Monthly Webinar Schedule		
First Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 PM	**New Test Coordinator Academy (NCTA)** Who: Everyone, especially new test coordinators and educators/administrators who want to stay up to date on assessment tasks and important timely assessment topics. What: Review of monthly checklist and in-depth information on timely topics in assessment	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/ntca
First Wednesdays 3:30-4:00 PM	**Test Coordinator Monthly Updates** Who: Test Coordinators/Administrators	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/tc

	What: The short version of the NTCA webinar for experienced test coordinators/administrators	
Second Tuesdays **3:30-4:30 PM**	**ELP Monthly Webinar** Who: System Test Coordinators, Educators who work with Montana's LEP students. What: Overview of ELP assessment activities and in depth topics to help serve and assess Montana's ELLs.	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/elp
Second Wednesdays (starting Dec.11) **3:30-4:30 PM**	**Smarter Balanced Updates** Who: System Test Coordinators and Administrators What: Monthly updates, timely topics, and activities overview pertinent to the SBAC assessment transition.	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/sbac
Last Mondays **3:30-4:30 PM**	**Connecting to the Common Core:** **Montana's New Alternate Assessment** Who: System Test Coordinators, Special Education Directors, and Special Educators What: A monthly webinar series intended to orient educators to the NCSC summative assessment system and inform about assessment development.	http://connect.opi.mt.gov/alt
Log-in Instructions Click on the link for the webinar (see third column above) Choose: ENTER AS GUEST Enter: Your First, Last Name, School/District Click on: ENTER ROOM		

New Test Coordinator Information

If your system has a new System Test Coordinator this school year, please contact **Ashley Makowski**, the OPI assessment administrative assistant, at **(406)444-3511**. Please provide the Test Coordinator's name, email address, phone number, shipping address, and mailing address.   OPI assessment staff contact information is on the first page of this newsletter.

New Test Coordinator Academy:
Monthly webinars for new test coordinators will be presented on the first Tuesday of every month from 3:30-4:30 PM. The webinar link is: http://connect.opi.mt.gov/ntca. There is no need to register. The meeting space will open a half hour before the webinar is due to begin. To enter the meeting space, click on the link and choose to *enter as guest.* External microphones are optional.

These webinars will provide an opportunity to ask questions of the assessment staff, explore a timely topic in depth, and receive information on test coordinator tasks for each month. For more information contact Yvonne Field at (406)444-0748, yfield@mt.gov

CRT&ALT

Start Date	End Date	Event	Purpose
1/6/14	1/24/14	Assessment Registration Collection	• Register Students for Science CRT test • Enter/modify/update enrollment records for all students that have entered or exited • Modify enrollments to reflect semester grade level changes • Students not entered into AIM prior to 1/24/14 will not receive a label; however all enrolled students are required to partipate.
NOTE: Please see page 5 below regarding students eligible for the CRT Alternate and the registration deadlines.			

The complete data collection schedule can be found here:
http://opi.mt.gov/PUB/AIM/AIM%20Collections/13_14AIMCollectionSchedule.pdf

Youth ChalleNGe

Grade 10 students who enter the Montana Youth ChalleNGe Academy in January 2014 must participate in the CRT.

- The CRT will be administered to them by a trained test administrator for the Academy.
- Testing materials, including barcode labels, will be sent to the test administrator for the Academy.
- Those materials will be returned to Measured Progress after testing.
- The students' participation and results will be reported with their schools not the Academy. OPI will send the *AIM* file to Measured Progress to generate CRT barcode labels. The deadline to enter information for barcodes is **January 24, 2014.**
- By January 24, 2014, please work with your *AIM* staff to complete the *AIM* enrollment information for all students including the identification of grade 10 students attending the Montana Youth ChalleNGe Academy.
- This screen shot from *AIM* shows a record identifying that the student is participating in the MT Youth ChalleNGe Academy.

- Following this process will ensure that the Montana Youth ChalleNGe Academy will receive the materials to test your students. Thank you.

Montana Digital Academy

All Grade 10 students enrolled in a public high school for 180 hours or more, including those students taking classes through the Montana Digital Academy, are required to participate in the Science CRT assessment in the school in which they are enrolled. Each student should have a state student ID and be entered in AIM.

Montana Job Corps

Grade 10 Montana students enrolled in the Job Corps are required to participate in the Science CRT. AIM enrollment data will be used to identify those students, and OPI will make arrangements for their participation.

The CRT-Alternate: Science (grades 4, 8, and 10), Reading and Math (grades 3-8 and 10)

Both barcode labels and materials for the alternate assessment are dependent upon registration of eligible students through the Measured Progress site. The registration information from the Measured Progress site will be merged with the barcode label information in AIM before being exported to Measured Progress.

If the deadlines are not met, barcode labels and materials will not be available thus preventing participation.

Please follow the registration dates for eligible students. The deadline for students currently enrolled has been extended to **December 16, 2013**. Below are further registration deadline details.
If you have questions, please contact Ashley Makowski, 406-444-3511 or amakowski@mt.gov.

Registration window for students eligible for the CRT-Alternate	
October 7, 2013-December 16, 2013	For students currently enrolled in your school
January 2, 2014-January 14, 2014	**Only** forstudents who enroll in your school after December 2, 2013
After January 14, 2014	**Only** for students who enroll after January, 14, 2014, please contact Ashley Makowski, 406-444-3511, amakowski@mt.gov

How to Register Students for the CRT-Alternate
Registering Students for the CRT-Alternate Assessment

Guidelines for eligibility for the CRT-Alternate are online
http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/TA/10How_to_Include_Students_with_Disabilities.pdf

	Flexiblility Waiver Granted

Because the flexibility waiver has been granted, all Montana public and private accredited schools will participate in the ELA and Math Smarter Balanced Field Tests, grades 3—8 and 11 in the spring of 2014.

Getting Ready: What can my school/district do right now to get ready for the Smarter Field Test?	
☑	**TASK/EVENT**

	1. Set up School/District Smarter Teams
	Include:
	        Administration
	        System Test Coordinator
	        IT Staff
	        Specialist Teachers
	        Data staff

	2. Utilize the Tech Readiness Tools http://opi.mt.gov/groups/trt/index.html
	3. Share Practice Test information and links with all stakeholders in your district/school including: Administration, Test Coordinators, Educators, School Staff, Parents, and Students. **Take the Practice Test:** We recommend that everyone take the practice test in an applicable grade level and content area. The experience will help you to understand and plan for the new summative assessment. Link: http://sbac.portal.airast.org Manuals and User Guides: http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/resources/

	Secure Browser

All students must use a secure browser to access the Field Test. These secure browsers prevent students from accessing other computer or internet applications or copying test information.

The secure browser is available for download from the Smarter Balanced test portal.
http://sbac.portal.airast.org

Downloading and installing the Field Test secure browser
- Must be downloaded on each computer for the Field Test
- Can be installed individually or deployed to all computers through network
- Secure browser download is required for all schools

Important! Schools that have downloaded other versions of AIR's secure browser (including those for current statewide testing or for the Smarter Balanced Pilot Test) **must still download the Field Test browser**. Other versions of the browser will not work for the Field Test.

Testing on tablets—new application for secure browser.
Schools that test using iPad® or Android® tablets will need to download an application (app) rather than the secure browser. This free app is currently available. The link to the installation stores (the Apple® App Store

and the Google® Play Store) will be available from the secure browser page of the Smarter Balanced Field Test Portal at **http://sbac.portal.airast.org/browsers/.**
Schools that have already downloaded previous versions of these apps simply need to update their existing app.

Field Test Technical Specifications Manual and *Secure Browser for Tablets User Guide* are posted at **http://sbac.portal.airast.org/browsers/.**

Resources and Training Materials Dissemination Timeline		
Audience	**Date**	**Resource**
IT Personnel	**Available now**	Technical specifications manuals released to Field Test Portal Secure browser documentation released to Field Test portal Secure Browser Available for Download http://sbac.portal.airast.org
Various (see training modules chart below)	**January 28, 2014**	Training modules to be released and available for use.
System Test Coordinator, Administrators	**January 29, 2013**	Test Coordinator Manual released to Field Test Portal

Training Modules

Most modules will be released and available for use on **January 28, 2014**. Please share these modules with the appropriate audiences.

Module	Audience	Desciption
What is a Field Test?	Students	This module provides an overview of Smarter Balanced and why the students are participating in the Field Test.
What is a CAT?	Systems and teachers	This module explains how Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) differs from paper-and-pencil tests. The video shows how the tests can be customized for each student.
Let's Talk Tools	Students and teachers	This module describes the types of tools designed to help students during the test administration.
Technology Requirements for Online Testing	Technology coordinators	The tutorial outlines the hardware requirements, software installation processes and system configurations necessary to ensure school systems are ready for online testing

Performance Tasks	System and school coordinators, teachers, and administrators	This module will provide an overview of what can be expected during the administration of the Performance Tasks.
TIDE User Roles	System coordinators, administrators, and IT personnel	This module provides detailed information on how to upload student information and manage users, as well as other features found on the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE). AIM will provide most of the data to TIDE; however there will be some data uploaded from school systems.
Student Interface	Students, IT personnel, system and school administrators	This module provides an overview on navigating and interacting with the screens that the student will see.
Test Administrator Training	Test administrators	This module provides information related to preparing for the test, as well as information on general test administration and test security.
Accessibility and Accommodations	Systems, teachers, and parents.	This module provides an overview of various tools that are provided to accommodate student testing needs.

Student Registration

OPI will use the AIM system to provide data to ETS to register students. The deadline to update data in AIM is the same as for the CRT barcode labels, **January 24, 2014**. Please work with your AIM staff to ensure that your school(s) have provided the most current information.

Online Practice Test

Teachers, parents, and students in Montana can access online practice tests aligned to the Common Core State Standards. The Practice Tests provide a preview of the types of questions that will be featured in the summative assessment beginning in 2014-15 including selected-response items, constructed-response items, technology-enhanced items, and performance tasks—extended activities that challenge students to apply their knowledge and skills to respond to real world problems. The practice tests allow teachers and students to experience the Common Core tests and gain familiarity with the online test delivery system.

Click on the link below to access the practice tests:
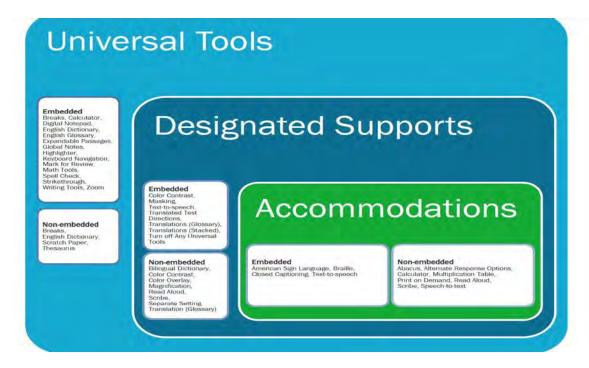http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/

NOTE! The practice test can ONLY be opened in the following browsers
- Mozilla Firefox
- Google Chrome
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 10
- Apple Safari

Accommodations

Please share the link below to the Smarter accessibility guideless with all your teachers, especially the special education staff. It is the official Smarter document on tools, supports, and accommodations.
http://www.smarterbalanced.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/SmarterBalanced_Guidelines_091113.pd

Smarter Accommodations Registration

Registration for accommodations can be done as late as the day before a student starts the Smarter field test; however, that registration will need to be accomplished at the system level. System test coordinators will need to coordinate these efforts and input the information. OPI will provide training for the registration.

Scheduling Tips

- Since there are no predeterminied break points in the Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) or Performance Tasks (PT), students can work on the test during one scheduled test period and then continue the test during the next scheduled test period.
- On the CAT, they will not be able to return to the items they answered the prior day, but they will be able to continue the rest of the test.
- All students will participate in the performance tasks as well as the CAT

In the table below are the estimated times it will take students to complete the Smarter Balanced Field Test based on the time it took students to complete the Smarter Balanced Pilot Test in the spring of 2013. The test duration estimates described in the table below are applicable to most students. However, Smarter Balanced assessments are not timed tests. Some students may need more time and some students may need less time to complete the assessment.

Content Area	Grades	Non-Performance Task items	Performance Task	Total	In-Class Activity	Total
English Language Arts/Literacy	3-5	1:30	2:00	3:30	:30	4:00
	6-8	1:30	2:00	3:30	:30	4:00
	11	2:00	2:00	4:00	:30	4:30
Mathematics	3-5	1:30	1:00	2:30	:30	3:00
	6-8	2:00	1:00	3:00	:30	3:30
	11	2:00	1:30	3:30	:30	4:00
Both	3-5	3:00	3:00	6:00	1:00	7:00
	6-8	3:30	3:00	6:30	1:00	7:30
	11	4:00	3:30	7:30	1:00	8:30

TechReadinessTool

On August 12, 2013 a new version of the Technology Readiness Tool (TRT) was launched. Enhancements include better reports, a "scenario calculator," and a more user-friendly home page. With the availability of SBAC practice tests, now is a perfect time to update your TRT data or establish your TRT account. Watch the training videos linked below to learn more about TRT 3.0.

•   Module 1: Devices, Surveys, and Completion Status
•   Module 2: Results and Indicators

To request a TRT account, visit http://techreadiness.net and click on "request account."
If you have questions, please contact the Montana State Readiness Coordinator (SRC) Colet Bartow, (406) 444-3583, cbartow@mt.gov.

A **Technology Readiness Calculator** is available to help schools **estimate the number of days and associated network bandwidth required to complete Smarter Balanced assessments**. This tool allows districts and schools to enter the number of students, number of computers, and number of hours per day that computers are available for testing. The calculator is available through the Technology page of the Smarter Balanced website at http://www.smarterbalanced.org/smarter-balanced-assessments/technology/.

Phase 1 Pilot:
In February-April 2014, Montana teachers and students will have the opportunity to participate in a pilot test that will inform the continued development of the NCSC Alternate Assessment which is scheduled for full administration of its summative assessment in the spring of 2015 for eligible students in grades 3-8 and 11 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

Pilot Test Facts
- CRT- Alternate eligible students
- Grades 3 through 8 and grade 11
- Either ELA (reading and writing) or Mathematics
- Items will be accessed online
- Students will either interact directly with computer/device or the test administrator can enter answer choices for the student
- 1.5 to 2 hours to complete;
- Multiple sessions determined by student needs

Pilot Test Windows
Mathematics: late February – March 2014
English Language Arts: March – April 2014

Test Administrator Time Commitment/Responsibilities
- Approximately 3 hours of online, self-directed training modules or face to face (OPI provided)
- 1.5-2 hours test administration time
- Test materials preparation (time varies depending on needs of student)

Benefits to schools participating in the pilot test:
- Schools, teachers, and students will experience test items and online test delivery
- Teachers will be able to provide feedback to directly impact operational test design

These are exciting times for educators, students, special education, and for alternate assessments. Your assistance and participation in this important pilot are very much needed and appreciated.

Registration
To participate in the pilot test or with questions, please contact:
Yvonne Field, OPI Assessment Specialist, yfield@mt.gov| 406-444-0748

Webinar on the Summative Assessment and Phase I Pilot
http://connect.opi.mt.gov/p5acmeusfri/

Alternate Assessment Hub on the OPI Website:
Looking for more information on the new alternate assessment? Explore the alternate assessment hub for media, upcoming events, a blog, and to connect with the Community of Practice members here:
http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/montCAS/MCCS/index.php?gpm=1_6&tpm=6_4&tpm=19_1

ACCESS for ELLs Testing Schedule 2013-2014	
Activity	**Date**
Test Ordering	11/4/13
Ship Test Materials	11/21/13
Districts Receive Test Materials	11/27/13
Test Window	12/4/13-1/29/14
Additional Materials Deadline	1/15/14
Districts Pack Completed Materials	1/29/14-2/5/14
Districts Ship Competed Materials to MetriTech	2/5/14
Reports Shipped to Districts	4/14/14-5/12/14
Review Reports to Make Exit Decisions	4/14-6/29/14
Deadline to Update AIM for students who have met proficiency criteria.	6/30/14

Ordering Additional Testing Materials

You may find when you receive your testing materials that you do not have all of the materials that you need either because you have newly enrolled ELLs or that the Tier that has been ordered is not the correct tier for a particular student or students.

You can order additional materials directly from MetriTech using this form:

http://www.metritech.com/userfiles/file/2014%20WIDA%20Order%20Form.doc

NOVEMBER ELP Monthly Webinar Recorded

November's webinar topics included: ACCESS for ELLs test schedule and important dates, test materials security and preparation, ordering additional test materials, understanding tier placement, a basic overview of the ACCESS for ELLs, and information about the new media based Listening portion of the assessment.

November ELP Monthly Webinar Recording

Students who move during the ELP assessment window

https://www.metritech.com/userfiles/file/WIDA%20-%20Student%20Transfer%20Form.pdf

1. This form can be used when a student takes one or more sections of the ACCESS for ELLs test in one school and transfers to or from another school (may be a new system) and takes the remaining sections.
2. **DO NOT USE THIS FORM** if the student moved out of state or out of the country. Instead, mark the test **DO NOT SCORE** and include with the non-score-able materials.
3. Fill in all available information on the form.
4. Contact the other school/system, so they can fill out the same form. *Please* **DO NOT EVER SEND TESTING MATERIALS TO ANOTHER DISTRICT WHEN A STUDENT MOVES**
5. Paper-clip this form to the front of the test book (DO NOT STAPLE OR TAPE).

6. Place this test behind a *To Be Scored* 'School Header Sheet' with the name of the district and school the student is to be reported in.
7. MetriTech will make every effort to combine scores from all sections taken by the same student in different schools/districts.

ACCESS for ELLs Media-Based Listening Subtest
New for this year's ACCESS for ELLS, is the roll out of the new media-based listening subtest, which will debut on Series 302 in 2013-14 school year. Training resources for the media delivered listening test have been developed and are posted on the WIDA website.

Alternate ACCESS for ELLs and ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration Trainings

Online ACCESS for ELLs Trainings
1. Complete the appropriate training modules:
    i. Group Administration
    ii. Speaking Test Administration
    iii. Kindergarten Test Administration
    iv. Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration

> ACCESS for ELLs Test Administrators must be certified by completing trainings and quizzes on the WIDA website.

2. Read appropriate test administration manual(s)
    a. ACCESS for ELLs Test Test Administration Manual (K)
    b. ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration Manual (1-12)
    c. Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Test Administration Manual

> *These manuals are available in the WIDA download library or in the ACCESS for ELLs training modules. Sign in with your personal account to access these documents.*

3. **Complete Quizzes with a minimum of 80% to be certified**

Recorded Webinar Options
1. View the appropriate recorded webinar trainings
2. Read the appropriate test administration manual(s)
3. **Complete quizzes with a minimum of 80% to be certified**

Nondisclosure Agreement
Test coordinators: please make sure that each of your test administrators reads and signs the WIDA non disclosure agreement.
- The non disclosure agreement can be downloaded and printed from the download library in the ACCESS for ELLs section on the WIDA website.
- A hard copy/digital copy of the signed agreements should be kept on file with the test coordinator.

ACT Plus Writing

Facility Requirements and Off-Site Proposals
If you haven't already done so, please check the ACT Summary of Requirements to verify that your facility meets the ACT requirements. If your facility does not meet **all** of the requirements, you will need to submit an Off-Site Proposal by December 13. Please also email amakowski@mt.gov an estimate of the additional costs you will incur by use of an off-site facility or any other extraordinary expenses.

Webcasts
Accommodations Training Webcast: The ACT-Allowed Accommodations training provides information for the TAC ACT accommodations procedures, what accommodations are allowed by ACT, and what materials need to be included in the application. The TAC should complete this webinar as soon as possible so he/she will be

able to submit the application for accommodations by January
http://www.act.org/aap/video/AA_Accommodations2013-2014.html

State-Allowed Accommodations: If you have a student who does not qualify for an ACT-Approved Accommodation, that student may still utilize State-Allowed Accommodations. This webinar explains what State-Allowed Accommodations are and how they affect students' scores, as well as how to order materials. http://www.act.org/aap/video/SA_%20Accommodations2014.html

2013-14 ACT Staff Fall Meeting: OPI held a webinar on November 14 for the ACT staff assigned by high school principals. This webinar focused on the expectations of the three roles, what to expect in the coming year, and tools to help prepare for the test administration. If you were unable to attend the webinar, it is posted online. http://connect.opi.mt.gov/p6lul5v8sx4/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal

Standard-Time Testing Training Webcast: The training for standard-time testing (testing without accommodations) is available. ACT will send the link via e-mail.

2014 Assessment/Data Conference

Thank you to all who submitted a proposal to speak at the 2014 Assessment and Data Conference: All Aboard: College and Career Ready! Speakers from the field help make the conference as valuable and relevant as possible.

Registration for the 2014 Assessment and Data Conference is now open!
Follow this link to register today: https://tofu.msu.montana.edu/cs/opi_assessment_2014/registration

2014 Assessment and Data Conference
January 15-17, 2014
>   Jan 15: Pre-session 1:00-3:00
>   Jan 16: General Sessions 8:00-4:45
>   Jan 17: General Sessions 8:00-12:00

Red Lion Colonial Hotel
Helena, MT

Registration Fees:
Pre-Session Only: $25
General Session Only: $65
Conference Special (Pre-session and General Sessions): $75

Regular registration will be open until midnight on January 5. Late Registration will begin January 6, and will include an additional $10 fee.

OPI staff: please register by emailing Ashley Makowski at amakowski@mt.gov. Please do not register online.

Lodging: Several hotels in Helena have agreed to offer lodging at the government rate for our conference. Please visit our conference website for the list of hotels and instructions for making your reservation: http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#gpm1_4.

Conference Presentations:
2 Keynote Speakers
 Montana Teachers of the Year: Paul Andersen (2011) and Anna Baldwin (2014)
3-hour workshops on Wednesday
70-minute general sessions all day Thursday and Friday morning on a variety of topics:
- Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium: Updates and Field Test Planning
- Science CRT
- Accommodations
- Reading, Math, and Science CRT-Alt
- ELP (English Language Proficiency)
- NCSC (ELA and Math Alternate Assessment for Spring 2015)
- ACT Plus Writing
- Formative Assessment Practices
- Montana Common Core Standards: College and Career Readiness
- ELA, Math, and Science Instructional Strategies
- School Improvement Strategies
- Data
- Graduation Matters Montana

Testing Contractor Information

The CRT and the CRT-Alternate—Measured Progress, Inc.
- Dan Verdick, Montana CRT Program Manager
    - dverdick@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901x2220
- Tim Greenlaw, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Manager
    - greenlaw.timothy@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901x2309

ACCESS and the W-APT, English Language Proficiency Assessments WIDA Consortium
- Questions about online trainings and the WiDA website
    - help@wida.us or 1-866-276-7735
- Questions about data or testing materials
    - mtinfo@metritech.com or 800-747-4868

ACT Plus Writing
- Testing questions: 800-553-6244x2800
- Accommodations questions: 800-553-6244x1788

Practice Test Help
- Yvonne Field, Assessment Specialist: 406-444-0748, yfield@mt.gov

Quote of the Month

Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another.
John Dewey